



ENERGY  
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## COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

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### **Virginia Energy Plan Public Listening Session At NVCC Annandale Campus**

**RICHMOND** – The Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy will hold a public listening session to receive public comments on and recommendations for the Virginia Energy Plan on Monday, September 25, 2006, at the Ernst Center Theatre at Northern Virginia Community College in Annandale, VA. The meeting is the second of four such public listening sessions being held across the Commonwealth to receive public comments on the development of a ten-year Virginia Energy Plan. The listening session will start at 6:00 p.m. The DMME will use comments from the public as it drafts the Virginia Energy Plan.

The public listening session will be preceded by a meeting of the Virginia Energy Plan Advisory Group from 2 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Ernst Center Theater. The Advisory Group is composed of key leaders with an interest in Virginia energy matters who have been asked to provide input to the plan. Constituent groups represented by these leaders include consumers, local government and military, general business, environmental advocacy, electric and natural gas utilities, petroleum industry, energy extraction industry, and renewable and other energy interests.

The Virginia Energy Plan was established in Senate Bill 262, signed by Governor Timothy M. Kaine in May, to proactively assess and plan for Virginia's energy future. "The development of the Virginia Energy Plan is a key step in establishing how we will develop and conserve our energy resources in a manner that helps protect our environment while promoting continued economic development and vitality in the Commonwealth," Governor Kaine said. "I strongly encourage public involvement in the development of the plan as we continue to define our long-term energy policy."

Secretary of Natural Resources L. Preston Bryant, Jr. will lead the Advisory Group work session, which will examine issues related to energy and the environment. "Virginia's energy plan must not only address our needs for new energy resources and infrastructure; it must also seek a balance between these needs and while maintaining environmental quality in the Commonwealth," said

Secretary Bryant. “I look forward to the discussion of these issues at the Annandale meeting of the Advisory Group and the input from citizens at the listening session.”

This will be the second of four Advisory Group meetings and public listening sessions on the Virginia Energy Plan. The remaining public listening sessions will be held in:

- **October 18, 2006**, at the **Virginia Military Institute in Lexington, VA**. The Lexington listening session is being scheduled along with the Energy Virginia Conference at Virginia Military Institute. The Lexington public listening session will start at 6:30 p.m. You do not have to be registered for the Energy Virginia Conference to come and speak at the public listening session. More information on the Energy Virginia Conference may be found at <http://www.energyvacon.org>.
- **November 2, 2006**, in the **Tidewater Room at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg**. The Williamsburg public listening session is scheduled to start at 6 p.m.

The Virginia Energy Plan Web site, [www.dmme.virginia.gov/VaEnergyPlan](http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/VaEnergyPlan), will be updated with the latest information on plan development, meeting schedules, meeting minutes and links to other energy information. The public also may comment on the Virginia Energy Plan through the Web site. Citizens who are unable to attend the public listening sessions are encouraged to provide comments to DMME through the Virginia Energy Plan Web site.

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